

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 22 and 23 have been amended and claims 28-36 have been newly added. Claim 2, 9 and 10 has been previously cancelled and claims 15-21 have been previously withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-8, 11-14 and 22-36 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 22 and 29 are independent claims.

The Office Action indicated that claims 1-14 are allowed and claims 23-27 are allowable but objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim.

In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,926,601 issued to Tai, *et al.* (“Tai”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

In this response, claim 22 has been amended to recite:

“22. A display device, comprising:
...
a first light guiding plate adjoining the light to *induce the light beam from the light source in a first direction ...*; and
a second light guiding plate adjoining the first light guiding plate to *induce the light beam from the first light guide plate in a second direction ...*,
wherein the first direction is *substantially different* from the second direction.”

An example of these claimed features are shown in Fig. 3 of the present application, in which the first light guiding plate 12 induces the light beam from the light source 10 in the vertical direction and the second light guiding plate 18 induces the light beam from the first light guiding plate 12 in the vertical direction. Thus, the first and second light guiding plates 12 and 18 induce the light beam in substantially different directions.

In this regard, in Figs. 1 and 8B of Tai, the asserted first and second light guiding plates induce the light beam from the light source 2 in a substantially same direction. More specifically speaking, the asserted first light guiding plate 28 induces the light beam from the light source 2 in a direction from the light source 2 to the light pipe 12, and the light pipe 12 induces the light beam from the asserted first light guiding plate 28 in the substantially same direction. Thus, it is submitted that Tai fails to disclose “the first direction is *substantially different* from the second direction”, as claimed.

For this reason, it is submitted that claim 22 is patentable over Tai. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over claim 22.

Claim Objection

Claims 23-27 have been objected to for being dependent from a rejected base claim. This objection is respectfully traversed. In this response, claim 22 has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Tai. Thus, claims 23-27 that are dependent from claim 22 would be also patentable at least for the same reason. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection over claims 23-27 is respectfully requested.

Other Matters

In this response, claim 23 has been amended to replace “first” with --second-- because, as shown in Fig. 5, the first part 13 is formed on the surface of the first light guiding plate opposite to the surface thereof facing the second light guiding plate. Also, claim 28-36 have been newly added to cover features that are disclosed but not claimed.

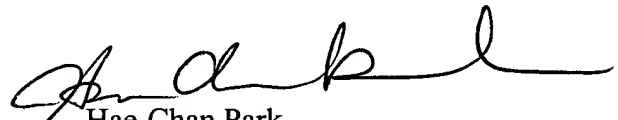
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Hae-Chan Park
Reg. No. 50,114

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McGuireWoods LLP
1750 Tysons Boulevard
Suite 1800
McLean, VA 22102-4215
Tel: 703-712-5365
Fax: 703-712-5280
HCP:WSC/gjb